

6 Basic Principles of Marriage

1. The power of marriage lies in recognizing that we are enabled by the Holy Spirit to serve others because of fear (being in awe) of Christ.

The gospel is not legalistic or permissive. The legalist repents out of fear. The permissive person keeps sinning because God enjoys forgiving. Believers repent out of gratitude because we are saved.

Gospel self-esteem makes you more prone and able to repent because of grace and freedom. You are humbled but not despairing, strong and able to serve.

2. The definition of marriage is a legally binding public covenant.
3. Marriage is the highest priority in life, more powerful in its impact than your relationship with your parents and more important than your job, children, etc.
4. The purpose of marriage is friendship. It is God's cure for loneliness. Physical nakedness is just a result of soul nakedness and shouldn't come first.
5. The structure of marriage is the man at the head, the wife is the body. The differences are complementary, equal but not equivalent. Goal is completion.
6. The mystery of marriage is that it mirrors the relationship of Christ and the Church. The purpose of marriage is to be washed. It is a vehicle for your sanctification. Marriage is to make you holy.



